***Of Mice and Men* 5 Paragraph Persuasive Essay**

--*Does George’s decision reveal the strength or weakness of his friendship with Lennie?*

**Intro Examples**

**Quotation Intro (***begin with a quotation from or related to the novel, story, or work, and then apply this quote to the topic you’re writing about.***)**

“Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world…With us it ain’t like that. We got a future…An’ why? Because…because I got you to look after me, and you got me to look after you, that’s why.” This conversation between George and Lennie reveals the friendship that they share with each other and the difference between them and the common working man: where other people care only for themselves, they care for each other. While some people might argue that George’s final decision to end Lennie’s life was an act of murder, the reality is that his actions actually show the true strength of his friendship for Lennie. George’s actions reveal him as a true friend to Lennie because (1), (2), and (3).

**Definition Intro (***take the topic—in this case, friendship—and provide your own personal definition of it and then apply it to the specific example you’re writing about in your essay***)**

Friends are a necessary part of any fulfilling, happy life. Without friends, we would have no one to share all the good and cope with all the bad that life brings us. In *Of Mice and Men*, friendship is what separates George and Lennie from the rest of the characters on the ranch. At the end of the novel, George is forced to make a painful and difficult decision to end Lennie’s life, but his actions demonstrate the strength of his friendship for Lennie because they show (1), (2), and (3).

**Body Example**

First, the compassionate way that George ended Lennie’s life demonstrates the strength of his friendship with Lennie. George didn’t murder Lennie in cold blood; instead, he made sure that Lennie was imagining the dream farm, full of rabbits, when he died. George could have simply shot Lennie as soon a he found him by the river, but in recounting the story that Lennie loved so much, he brought him closer to attaining this dream before he died than he ever would have been able to achieve in life. George proved himself a true friend.

Another way George acted as a friend is…